

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 OES-06 FEAE-00  
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SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /099 R

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NEA/INS:DKUX (SUBS)  
-----121819Z 040134 /50

O 121714Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 081515

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PK, US

SUBJECT: JACK ANDERSON COLUMN ON REPROCESSING/A-7 ISSUE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JACK ANDERSON COLUMN WHICH APPEARED  
IN APRIL 12, 1977 WASHINGTON POST. QUOTE: KISSINGER'S  
PROMISE TO PAKISTAN. FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A.  
KISSINGER SECRETLY PROMISED PAKISTAN DOLS ONE BILLION WORTH  
OF FIGHTER PLANES LAST YEAR AS AN INDUCEMENT TO KEEP PAKIS-  
TAN FROM DEVELOPING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WITHOUT FORMALLY  
NOTIFYING CONGRESS, KISSINGER PRIVATELY OFFERED 110 SOPHIS-  
TICATED A-7 FIGHTER-BOMBERS TO PAKISTANI PRESIDENT ALI  
BHUTTO.

BHUTTO HAS DESPERATELY WANTED A NUCLEAR ARSENAL SINCE HIS  
ARCH-ENEMY, INDIA, EXPLODED HER FIRST ATOMIC BOMB IN MAY,  
1974. THE PAKISTANIS HAVE TRIED TO PERSUADE THE UNITED  
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STATES, CANADA, AND MOST RECENTLY FRANCE, TO HELP ADVANCE  
THEIR NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY.

BUT THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN FERVENTLY TRYING TO HALT THE  
SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO OTHER NATIONS. LAST AUGUST,  
IN ORDER TO KEEP PAKISTAN FROM JOINING THE SELECT NUCLEAR  
ARMS CLUB, KISSINGER PERSONALLY STRUCK A DEAL IN KARACHI

WITH ALI BHUTTO, AN OLD ALLY. KISSINGER HAS BEEN GRATEFUL TO BHUTTO FOR SERVING AS GO-BETWEEN IN RE-OPENING THE DOOR TO CHINA IN 1972.

THE A-7 FIGHTER PLANES, PROMISED BY KISSINGER, ARE EQUIPPED WITH ADVANCED MISSILES, BOMBS, ROCKETS AND CANNONS, AND ARE ONE OF THE MOST VERSATILE WEAPONS IN THE AMERICAN ARSENAL. KISSINGER APPARENTLY HOPED THESE PLANES WOULD MAKE THE PAKISTANIS FEEL MORE SECURE AGAINST INDIA, WHICH IS MILITARILY STRONGER.

PAKISTAN AGREED TO PAY CASH FOR THE PLANES. HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT THE FINANCIALLY DISTRESSED NATION WOULD FINANCE THE PURCHASE WITH A DOLS 1.1 BILLION LOAN FROM OIL-RICH SAUDI ARABIA.

RECENTLY, HOWEVER, PAKISTAN HAS BEGUN TO FEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES MAY RENEGE ON THE DEAL. IN JANUARY, PAKISTAN ANNOUNCED THAT IT WOULD PURCHASE A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT FROM FRANCE. THE DOLS 150 MILLION PLANT WOULD PRODUCE PLUTONIUM, WHICH COULD BE USED TO MAKE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

IRONICALLY, U.S. RELATIONS WITH INDIA REACHED THEIR NADIR BECAUSE OF ANOTHER SECRET ARRANGEMENT WITH PAKISTAN. DURING THE 1971 WAR BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN OVER BANGLADESH, KISSINGER AND PRESIDENT NIXON WERE SECRETLY TRYING TO AID PAKISTAN.

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AT A CONFIDENTIAL WHITE HOUSE MEETING, WE REPORTED AT THE TIME, KISSINGER DECLARED: "I'M GETTING HELL EVERY HALF-HOUR FROM THE PRESIDENT...HE WANTS TO TILT IN FAVOR OF PAKISTAN."

THE REVELATION OF KISSINGER'S LATEST SECRET PROMISE TO PAKISTAN COULD NOT HAVE COME AT A WORSE MOMENT FOR AMERICAN DIPLOMATS. SINCE INDIAN PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI WAS OUSTED IN LAST MONTH'S ELECTION, U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN FEVERISHLY WORKING TO REPAIR OUR TRADITIONALLY SHAKY RELATIONS WITH INDIA.

STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS NOW ARE QUIETLY TRYING TO CONVINCE THE PAKISTANIS TO ACCEPT A WEAPONS PACKAGE THAT WOULD BE LESS REPUGNANT TO INDIA.

FOOTNOTE: KISSINGER VEHEMENTLY DENIED THAT HE HAD "PROMISED" THE PLANES TO BHUTTO. HE TOLD US HE ONLY AGREED

THAT CONVENTIONAL ARMS REQUESTS FROM PAKISTAN "WOULD BE  
VIEWED IN A FAVORABLE LIGHT IF THEY DID NOT GO THROUGH

WITH THE REPROCESSING PLANT." SINCE NO FORMAL ACCORD WAS  
REACHED, HE SAID, THERE WAS NO NEED TO INFORM CONGRESS.  
END QUOTE.

2. GUIDANCE FOLLOWS.

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## Message Attributes

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